McMinn County Town Hall Meeting Jan. 9th 7pm at the Gem Theater

in Etowah Any questions, call 423-337-1652 Sponsored by McMinn Indivisible



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Athens, Tennessee

Friday, January 5, 2018

State & Local News National &

◆ ROUND ONE OF LEAF COLLECTION ENDS

The City of Athens Public Works Department has finished the first round of leaf collection and will do loose leaf collection by call-in only at this point. Call 744-2776 and leave your name, address, and phone number on the voice mail to be placed on a work list to have loose leaves vacuumed at curbside. The last day of loose leaf pick up will be Friday, January 26th. After that, leaves will have to be bagged in order for them to be picked up.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ Looking to prepare for the ACT exam or AP exam without breaking the bank? E.G. Fisher Public Library will hold an informational session on free test prep resources at 5 p.m. on Thursday, January 11th. High school students and their parents or guardians are invited. Participants will explore free online test prep guides and practice exams. For information, call 745-7782.

✓ The McMinn Historical Society will hold its January meeting this Sunday at 2 p.m. at the McMinn County Courthouse. The program will feature Linda Caldwell talking about the interesting morsels of history she has found while snooping in attics, old barns, and even Depot archives.

✓ The Athens Police Department will be conducting a Church Safety Seminar on Saturday, January 13th at 9 a.m. at the Athens Movie Palace. The seminar will be led by APD Officers, including Lieutenant Jason Garren who is an accredited instructor of Active Shooter Training. For details, call APD at 744-2730.

National & World News

◆ The Trump administration is seeking the largest sale of leases for offshore drilling ever proposed with 90 percent of coastal areas opened for offshore drilling.

◆ A pair of young sisters who went missing from their Texas home last week after their mother's suspicious death, were found safe in Colorado on Wednesday. They were found in Las Animas County, Colorado on Wednesday night with 44-year-old Terry Miles who is a person of interest in their mother's death. Miles was taken into custody without incident.

◆ The Trump administration has agreed to delay U.S. and South Korean joint military exercises until after the Pyeongchang Winter Olympic Games which will be held February 9th - February 25th.

◆ MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The City of Athens has been invited to participate in Round Two of the Thriving Communities initiative. A team from Athens will join teams from Decatur and Whitwell, TN, and Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. The 10-month program will help the teams develop economic growth strategies that utilize and build upon their local arts and cultural assets. A free workshop open to the public for anyone wanting to find out more about the program will be held on January 12th from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the McMinn Living Heritage Museum. For more information, call Lisa Dotson at 333-0329 or Kay Simmons at 745-0334.





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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Church News & Events

• Jerry Lee Freeman, age 48, of Athens, died on January 1st at Starr Regional Medical Center. He was employed by Athens Furniture Company for 13 years and most recently worked for Storm Copper Components. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home with visitation from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

• Jessie Russell Fennell, age 45, of Sweetwater (and a longtime resident of McMinn County), died Wednesday at Sweetwater Hospital. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ziegler Funeral Home.

• Roy Michael "Mike" Wade, age 71, of Athens, died Tuesday at his home. He retired from Lambcon Ready Mix. He also spent seven years in the National Guard. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of arrangements.

THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks closed higher as the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 25,000 for the first time. In economic news, ADP private jobs data came in stronger than expected, indicating additional progress in the labor market. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 152 points or 0.6% to 25,075. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 11 points or 0.4% to 2,724, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 12 points or 0.2% to 7,078.

- St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Etowah will have Vegetable Harvest Share from 2:30 to 3:15 p.m. today, Jan. 4th. There will be free vegetables for all, no ID required. The vegetables include cabbage, collards, kale, sweet potatoes, garlic, and onions. There's also free eggs and homemade bread.

- The 2018 "Church Involvement Conference" will be held January 19th and 20th at Athens Church of Christ. For information, call 920-3060.

TOP BABY NAMES IN TENNESSEE FOR 2017 Ava is the new number one name for baby girls born in Tennessee. Ava rose to the top of the list of the most popular names for girls born in 2017. William maintains the number one spot as the most popular name chosen for baby boys in Tennessee for the 11th straight year. Ava unseated Emma, which had held the top spot for girl names since 2011. The top names are shown below:

Rank	Girls	Boys
1	Ava	William
2	Olivia	Elijah
3	Emma	James
4	Amelia	Noah
5	Harper	Liam
6	Isabella	John
7	Elizabeth	Mason

